

### Subsection 2.—Non-Indictable Offences

The following statistics relate to non-indictable offences of adults disposed of by Police Magistrates or other Justices of the Peace, under authority of the Summary Convictions Act. Such convictions showed an increase of 44·7 p.c. during 1946 as compared with 1945 and were 13·5 p.c. higher than for 1942, the previous peak year. Increases were general in all the provinces and in the Northwest Territories but there were fewer convictions in Yukon.

#### 12.—Convictions of Adults for Non-Indictable Offences, by Provinces, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1937-46

NOTE.—Figures for 1900-12 are given at p. 1020 of the 1933 Year Book, for 1913-30 at p. 913 of the 1942 edition and for 1931-36 at p. 1113 of the 1946 edition.

Year	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Canada
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1937..	1,438	6,249	5,706	99,404	237,309	28,500	7,580	10,910	22,997	62	57	420,212
1938..	1,497	6,552	5,299	89,443	238,224	32,748	7,113	10,973	22,695	60	60	414,664
1939..	1,293	7,503	5,095	91,607	247,609	31,467	8,147	13,816	21,881	89	101	428,608
1940..	1,237	9,138	6,213	93,965	267,166	31,018	9,276	14,702	23,190	98	106	456,109
1941..	1,664	10,254	7,703	152,330	288,874	32,481	10,499	15,434	28,096	80	141	547,556
1942..	1,521	10,386	8,170	195,672	285,240	32,209	8,541	14,543	24,905	86	91	581,364
1943..	1,033	8,857	7,619	181,425	204,227	21,986	7,810	11,598	20,510	145	105	465,315
1944..	1,287	8,760	9,533	146,593	199,938	22,602	7,788	11,950	21,866	336	74	430,727
1945..	1,394	9,786	9,818	158,580	209,713	22,820	8,996	11,576	22,887	312	36	455,918
1946..	2,715	12,915	13,925	176,996	354,154	36,014	13,985	16,289	32,203	234	242	659,672

**Analyses of Convictions for Non-Indictable Offences.**—In 1946, non-indictable crimes increased for all but four of the classes shown in Table 13. Vagrancy, traffic infractions, and offences against the liquor, prohibition and temperance Acts showed the highest percentage increases in 1946 over 1945, and 44 p.c. more convictions are evidence that many people still persist in owning a radio without a licence.

The crimes that diminished to some extent were frequenting bawdy houses which decreased 26·3 p.c. and offences against gambling Acts which were less than half the 1945 figure. Quebec showed a surprising drop of nearly two-thirds for gambling offences (13,968 in 1945 to 4,941 in 1946) and convictions in that Province were lower than for any year since 1930. That drop was responsible for the decrease in Canada as a whole and offset a rise in Ontario where offences against the gambling Acts almost doubled (728 in 1945 to 1,444 in 1946).

In connection with these ups and downs, it should be remembered that, while the Criminal Code undergoes little change over a period of time, the figures for summary convictions are greatly influenced by the customs of the people and show a tendency to fluctuate as municipal regulations are strictly enforced or allowed to lapse.